

Over 100 years later, Blacksmiths Winery opened in the same location, which remains full of entrepreneurial vigor. The original buildings, including Watkins' home, barn, and shop make up the main structures of Blacksmiths Winery. As it takes its name from the profession of the earlier tenants, so Blacksmiths Winery certainly carries on the same enthusiasm for craftsmanship.

Blacksmiths Winery opened its doors in 1999, producing 1,000 cases of wine in the first year, and has since continually grown and expanded their award-winning product. Blacksmiths Winery now offers its customers a wide variety of over 20 different wines and sodas. They produce the more traditional red and white wines, such as Cabernet Sauvignon, but are widely popular for their fruitier and more adventurous flavors, including raspberry and rhubarb wines. Many of Blacksmiths' products are based on the flavors of locally grown Maine blueberries, elderberries, cranberries, and apples. Blacksmiths also makes nonalcoholic soda from wine grapes, including Merlot and Riesling flavors, and is continually seeking to expand its offerings. Visitors can taste these wines and sodas any day of the week, and on weekends, Blacksmiths opens its beautiful porch to guests where they can relax and enjoy a variety of beverages.

Highlighting Blacksmiths ingenuity, one of the company's popular fruit wines came about completely by chance. Through a packaging flaw, Blacksmiths acquired a large bunch of raspberries. Rather than waste the fruit, the company produced sample batches of what has become its raspberry dessert wine. This happy accident was then sent to the shelves at retail locations across Maine, to the delight of thirsty wine drinkers. This ingenuity is an example of the sort of creativity and adaptability, so characteristic of Maine entrepreneurs, that continues to keep the markets fresh with new and interesting products for consumers.

Blacksmiths Winery has demonstrated a never quenching thirst to utilize new techniques and experiment with unique flavor combinations, a quality which has led in large measure to their growing recognition. Indeed, the company's popularity is growing, as it has recently begun shipping its award-winning wines to a number of out-of-state locations. I thank everyone at the Blacksmiths Winery for their hard work and innovation, and wish them the best success in years to come.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mr. Pate, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The nominations received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 10:52 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Novotny, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 2883. An act to amend part B of title IV of the Social Security Act to extend the child and family services program through fiscal year 2016, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2943. An act to extend the program of block grants to States for temporary assistance for needy families and related programs through December 31, 2011.

The message also announced that the House passed the following bill, without amendment:

S. 846. An act to designate the United States courthouse located at 80 Lafayette Street in Jefferson City, Missouri, as the Christopher S. Bond United States Courthouse.

The message further announced that the House agreed to the following concurrent resolution, without amendment:

S. Con. Res. 28. Concurrent resolution authorizing the use of Emancipation Hall in the Capitol Visitor Center for an event to award the Congressional Gold Medal, collectively, to the 100th Infantry Battalion, 442nd Regimental Combat Team, and the Military Intelligence Service, United States Army, in recognition of their dedicated service during World War II.

ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

At 5:42 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bill:

S. 846. An act to designate the United States courthouse located at 80 Lafayette Street in Jefferson City, Missouri, as the Christopher S. Bond United States Courthouse.

The enrolled bill was subsequently signed by the President pro tempore (Mr. INOUE).

MEASURES READ THE FIRST TIME

The following bill was read the first time:

S. 1619. A bill to provide for identification of misaligned currency, require action to correct the misalignment, and for other purposes.

ENROLLED BILL PRESENTED

The Secretary of the Senate reported that on today, September 22, 2011, she had presented to the President of the United States the following enrolled bill:

S. 846. An act to designate the United States courthouse located at 80 Lafayette Street in Jefferson City, Missouri, as the Christopher S. Bond United States Courthouse.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, and were referred as indicated:

EC-3336. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Office of Policy, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Approval, and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Indiana; Redesignation of the Evansville Area to Attainment of the Fine Particulate Matter Standard" (FRL No. 9469-5) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 20, 2011; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3337. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Office of Policy, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Maryland; Transportation Conformity Regulations" (FRL No. 9470-2) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 20, 2011; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3338. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Review Group, Farm Service Agency, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Guaranteed Loan Fees" (RIN0560-AH41) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 21, 2011; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-3339. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Office of Financial Research's annual report on recruitment and retention, training and workforce development, and workforce flexibilities; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-3340. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, an annual report relative to the United States Participation in the United Nations; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-3341. A communication from the Chief Privacy Officer, Privacy Office, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Department of Homeland Security Privacy Office 2011 Annual Report to Congress"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-3342. A communication from the Chief Privacy Officer, Privacy Office, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Privacy Office Third Quarter Fiscal Year 2011 Report to Congress"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-3343. A communication from the Officer for Civil Rights and Civil Liberties, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Department of Homeland Security Office for Civil Rights and Civil Liberties Fiscal Year 2010 Annual and Consolidated Reports to Congress"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-3344. A communication from the Acting District of Columbia Auditor, transmitting,